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8/28/02

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF :
YOSHIAKI KUMAMOTO ET AL : ATTN: APPLICATION DIVISION
SERIAL NO: NEW U.S. PCT APPLICATION
(Based on PCT/JP99/02366) :
FILED: HEREWITH :
FOR: MOLDED ARTICLE :

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231

SIR:

Prior to a first examination on the merits, please amend the above-identified
application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend Claim 1 as follows:

--1. (Amended) A molded article comprising pulp and having an opening portion, a
body portion, and a bottom portion, wherein said body portion has no seams, the outer and
inner surfaces of said article are smooth, and said body portion has at least one cross-
sectional diameter which is greater than a corresponding cross-sectional diameter of said
opening portion or greater than another corresponding cross-sectional diameter of said body
portion, said corresponding cross-sectional diameter of said opening portion and said another
corresponding cross-section diameter of said body portion being located within the vertical
plane which contains said cross-sectional diameter of said body portion.--